Publication of the Gloucester County Historical Society

The Organization and Minutes of the Gloucester County Court

1686-7

▼

Some Loose Papers Pertaining to
Our Earliest Court

Also

Gloucester County Ear Mark Book

1686-1728

Woodbury, New Jersey, Nineteen Hundred Thirty

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INTRODUCTION

This is the second publication of the Gloucester County Historical Society made possible by the income of the following Trust Funds:

John W. Sparks Fund
County of Gloucester Fund
James C. Griscom Fund
Thomas W. Synnott Fund
Hubert Somers Fund
Eli and Mary Burnett Steward Fund

It contains the organization agreement of the Proprietors, Freeholders and Inhabitants of Gloucester County recorded at the meeting held at Gloucester, May 28, 1686 and the full official minutes of the courts held at the following times and places:

1st 7th mo [Sept.] 1686 at Gloucester.
10th 10th mo [Dec.] 1686 at Red Bank.
1st 2d mo [April] 1687 at Gloucester.
1st 4th mo [June] 1687 at Red Bank.
1st 7th mo [Sept.] 1687 at Gloucester.
1st 10th mo [Dec.] 1687 at Gloucester.
1st 1st mo [March] 1687/8 at Gloucester.

In addition to the above some loose papers pertaining to our earliest Courts, including a few dockets of civil suits and the first known coroner's inquest of the county follow.

The ear-mark book of Old Gloucester County, which is contemporaneous with our first court record book, is also contained herein except the illustrations which are omitted.

For certain reasons this publication will be copyrighted, but all are privileged to make use of its contents as they may desire, providing credit is given to it as the source of information.

Our first publication was, "Foraging for Valley Forge by General Anthony Wayne in Salem and Gloucester Counties, New Jersey, with Associated Happenings, and Foraging in Salem County for the British Army in Philadelphia by Colonel Mawhood and Major Simcoe—1778." Three thousand copies of this pamphlet, thirty-pages each, were printed.

The publications of our Society, from unpublished original sources as a rule, are intended to help create a greater civic pride in our Community because of the outstanding history of Old Gloucester County, which included the three present counties of Gloucester, Camden and Atlantic. Every current publication paid for by the income of the Trust Funds devoted to that purpose, will be given free as heretofore, to each school teacher under the jurisdiction of our County Superintendent of Schools,

974.981
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Mr. Daniel T. Steelman, because of the very noteworthy co-operation of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Gloucester County. They will also be distributed to the members of our Society and to various institutions which are on an exchange basis with us.

It was a great satisfaction to have the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders co-operate with us and cause the publication, "Foraging for Valley Forge, etc.," to be distributed among the school teachers of Salem County.

The Board of Education of Woodbury, of which Marshall Diverty, Esq., is President, also took considerable interest in our efforts and likewise gave a copy of our pamphlet of thirty-two pages to each student in the History Class of our local High School.

The State Normal School at Glassboro also obtained thirty copies for use in its reference library.

Other historical publications of the Trust Fund Series will follow from time to time, as the income permits. Up to date all of the labor of compilation has been donated and the only expenses have been the bare cost of printing.

It is sincerely hoped that additional Memorial Trust Funds may be received for various kinds of work on behalf of our Society, whereby our field of usefulness may be enlarged. It is also desired that interested persons, everywhere, will join our Society. The dues are Three Dollars per annum. Life Memberships Fifty Dollars.

It is well to mention here that a thirty-two page pamphlet concerning the Battle of Red Bank, near Woodbury, was compiled by the editor for the Sesqui-Centennial celebration of that event in 1927, which was also given to the school teachers of our county by our Board of Chosen Freeholders. Washington visited Red Bank, also Billingsport, on a tour of inspection of the Delaware River forts on August 1, 1777. The 1928 Year Book of the New Jersey Society of Pennsylvania contained eight maps of forts and engagements of the Revolution in Old Gloucester County.

Many questions have been asked of the editor concerning the origin of our educational plan and its purposes and, in deference to the suggestions that an outline should be given, the editor takes pleasure in explaining them briefly as follows:

Several years ago we, through the generosity of several friends, were presented with our present twenty-room home, now used as a Museum and Library, which was the residence of the famous Rev. Andrew Hunter, who sold it to John Lawrence, Esq., the brother of Capt. James Lawrence of "Don't Give up the Ship" fame, who lived in the house while attending the celebrated Academy School of Woodbury.

One of the gentlemen who gave the property to our Society, two or three years ago called on the editor one Sunday morning while he was at a late breakfast and said, "Frank, I want to do something for the Gloucester County Historical Society; how much do you want?" After

recovering from the surprise, the editor told him anything he gave would be welcomed and declined to suggest any amount. Within a very few minutes he wrote and gave us a substantial check and then ran away without any explanation. To that noble, generous friend, James Cooper Griscom, is due our everlasting thanks.

It was decided to use his contribution for the creation of our first Trust Fund, which was done. The writer then saw some other friends of our Society, one of whom was John W. Sparks, a Gloucester countian by birthright and he generously offered to create a Trust Fund of Ten Thousand Dollars providing we would raise an equal amount, which was accomplished by means of the hearty co-operation of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of our County and others.

It is a pleasure to pay tribute to our Board of Chosen Freeholders, of which E. Arlington Jones is now Director, for their public-spirited attitude towards our ancient records during the past fifteen years. More has been done by them in taking care of our valuable and fascinating public records in that time than was done in two centuries previously.

If the other Counties of New Jersey could have the liberal and whole-hearted co-operation that exists between the Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Historical Society of our County, it would not be long before the whole State of New Jersey would receive the proper recognition and appreciation due to it historically as a Colony and a State and possibly bring about a comprehensive State history for use in our Public Schools.

It would be an injustice at this point not to mention Dr. Carlos E. Godfrey, Director of the Department of Public Records of the State of New Jersey, who, by his herculean interest and indefatigable work, has made a land mark of achievement of his Department. He possesses a rare combination of many qualities for his work. Year after year he has plodded along and the prodigious results he has brought about are really amazing to those who have watched his work and ideals.

During the year 1918, the writer tried to make extracts from our first Court Record Book for Volume One of "Notes on Old Gloucester County." The result was very unsatisfactory, because at that time every sheet was covered on the under side with a piece of tracing cloth which made it impossible to read the pages that were covered.

The "restoration" of the priceless book had almost destroyed its value, and to make matters worse, the ink used in some of the years between 1688 and 1694, had eaten through the sheets and for that reason many of the visible pages were damaged beyond repair.

About three years ago Dr. Godfrey, in co-operation with County Clerk Oliver J. West, took advantage of the present quite satisfactory method of restoring old manuscripts and had the book restored as far as possible by removing the worthless cloth and placing all of the pages between transparent silk. The task was so well accomplished that outside of the fatal damage done by the ancient ink, it is now just as easily

read as when John Reading was Clerk of the Court, but, unless the editor is much mistaken, the handwriting is that of Thomas Sharp.

It is not likely that any other person has ever copied the first Court Records of Old Gloucester County verbatim. By eliminating a possible slight immaterial error here or there, the copy is an exact one even to the obsolete spelling, which is not an indication of ignorance but of lack of uniformity in spelling at that time.

The Court held on the 1st day of 7th month, 1687, was adjourned to meet on the 9th instant, but no mention of a Court on the latter date appears in the official Court Record Book. From the loose papers, it seems that the reason for the adjournment was to allow time for the appearance of William Warner before the Court to answer for his acts concerning the trial of Henry Treadway, a prominent citizen, before the Court at Burlington where he had been taken. The reason for this is rather obscure, unless he had to be confined, and Gloucester County then had no jail. Inasmuch as the case was again mentioned at the regular term of Court three months later, one must surmise Sheriff Warner did not appear on the adjourned date.

Ink damage manifests itself in the latter part of the record of the Court held the first day of the first month 1687, which transposed to current reckoning would be March 1st, 1688. It will be noticed that this term of Court followed that of 1st day of 10 mo 1687, or December 1st, 1687. At that time the year began on March 25th, which was New Year's Day. This placed March 24th in one year and March 25 in another. The calendar was changed in 1752.

It is very apparent that the Grand Jury and Justices exercised powers that in some respects seem autocratic, when judged by the standards of modern times. The Grand Jury dominated the Justices. Anyone desiring to get a good background of the Court proceedings should consult "Leaming and Spicer." On pages 503-4 of that work are the names of the forty men representing the Third and Fourth Tenths in the West Jersey Legislature at the Session beginning 25th 9 mo 1685, also the Justices for the same tenths, viz: Thomas Thackerey, Francis Collins, Andrew Robinson and Richard Lawrence. In the official manuscript records of May 12, 1686, which were omitted by Leaming and Spicer, Richard Lawrence asked to be dismissed because of his deafness and the fact that he was seventy years of age. The representatives of the Fourth Tenth proposed John Wood, who was chosen in his place on May 14th. It was at this session that permission was granted to the Two Tenths to organize a Court, which was done, as is shown in the pages following later.

The Third Tenth, now practically Camden County, extended from Pensaukin Creek to Big Timber Creek, and the Fourth Tenth from Big Timber Creek to Oldmans Creek, the northern boundary line of Salem Tenth or Fenwicks Colony established in 1675.

The General Assembly specified that the Courts should be held at Gloucester and Newton, but it will be noticed that Red Bank was substi-

tuted for the latter place, and very shortly all of the Court Sessions were held at Gloucester where the Court House and Jail were finally built. Prior to that time the Courts were held in the dwellings of prominent citizens. Woodbury became the County seat in 1786.

Law suits over land titles, water rights, timber, contracts, debts and terms of servitude; fines for absentee jurors; punishment for misdemeanors; the building of roads and bridges; the levying of taxes and their collection, payment for which could be made in cereals; ferry licenses across the Delaware River; the purchase of constables' staves; the ear-marking and unlawful killing of hogs; arbitration of disputes and numerous other things naturally made their initial appearance in these first court minutes.

If there had been such a thing as title insurance with its present-day safeguards and precautions, it is safe to say that much litigation appearing in our first court records would have been avoided.

The expenses of our very first Court were paid for by fines imposed on delinquent jurors and the value of three hogs belonging to unknown owners whose ear-marks had not been registered. The shooting of wild hogs was a common sport, judging from our early court records.

A part of our first Court Book page is reproduced herein by halftone process, to give a faint idea of the old -style penmanship and spelling of what Isaac Mickle in his "Reminiscences" named the "Constitution of Old Gloucester County." If death had not cut short his commendable historical contributions, we probably would be much better informed than we are today. The editor possesses his interleaved copy of his work but the manuscript additions are very few in number. He was the first historian of Old Gloucester County.

When the Third and Fourth Tenths of West New Jersey were formed into Gloucester County May, 28, 1686, it was ordered that the ear-marks of the swine and cattle should be registered in a book to be kept for that purpose. This ancient book still survives and it has been thought best to print the owners' names and brief descriptions of the ear-marks in this pamphlet. For the sake of expense and brevity, the ear-mark book illustrations are eliminated, but the first page is reproduced by photographic process to show their quaint appearance. At the time the ear-mark book was started, there were few, if any, fences and nearly all of the land owning settlers had hogs and cattle that were permitted to roam at large. The ear-mark book is conceded to be a practical directory of the chief inhabitants of the period it covers. The first three ear-marks recorded were those of the Judges who officiated at the first term of our Gloucester County Court.

FRANK H. STEWART, President,
Gloucester County Historical Society.

Woodbury, N. J.
June 23, 1930.

The Organization and Minutes of the Gloucester County, New Jersey, Court, 1686-1687

"Gloucester ye 28 May 1686

"By the Proprietors Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Third and fourth Tenths (alias County of Gloucester) then agreed as followeth

"Inprims That a Court be held for the Jurisdiction and Limmitts of the aforesaid Tenths or County, one Tyme at Arwamus alias Gloucester and another tyme at Red Bank

"Item That there be fouer Courtes for the Jurisdiction aforesaid held in one year at ye dayes and tymes hereafter mensioned viz

"Upon the first day of the first Month, upon the first day of ye fourth month, on the first day of the Seaventh month and upon ye first day of the Tenth month

"Item That the first Court shall be held at Gloucester aforesaid upon the first day of September next

"Item That all warrants and summons shall be drawne by the Clarke of the Courte: and signed by a Justice and soe delivered to the Sheriff or his Deputy to Execute

"Item That the bodye of each warrant &c shall contayne or intimate the nature of action

"Item That a Coppy of the Declaration be given along with ye warrant by the Clerke of the Court, that soe the Defendant may have the longer tyme to considder the same and prepare his answer

"Item That all sumons, warrants &c shall be served, Declarelarations given, at least ten days before the Court

"Item That the Sheriffe shall give the Jurors summons six dayes before the Courte be held before at which they are to appear

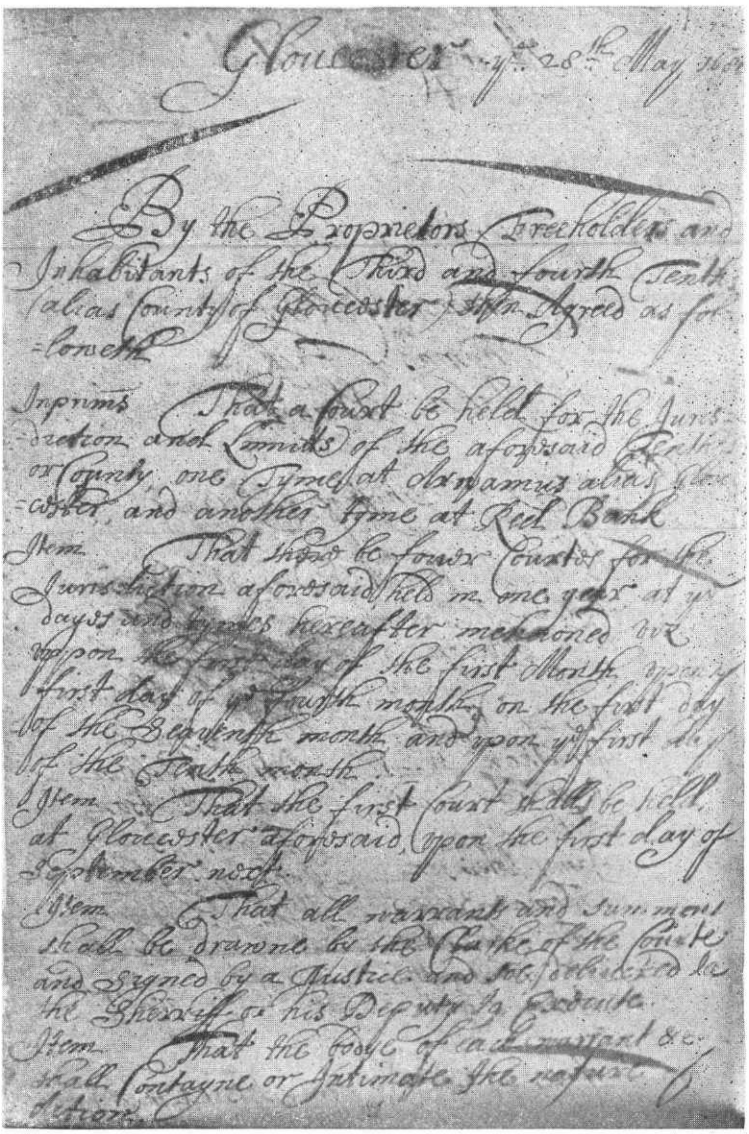
"Item That all persons within ye Jurisdiction aforesaid bring into the next Courte ye markes of thier Hoggs and other Cattell in order to be Approved and Recorded"

The Minutes of the First Court

"At this Court held at Gloucester on ye 1st day of 7 month 1686

"Justices present on ye Bench
Francis Collins
Thomas Thackera
John Wood

Reproduction of the First Page of the First Court Record Book


Gloucester ye 28th May 1686

By the Proprietors Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Third and fourth Tenth alias County of Gloucester then Agreed as followeth

Inprimis That a court be held for the Jurisdiction and Limits of the aforesaid Tenth or County one Tyme at Arnamus alias Gloucester and another Tyme at Red Bank

Item That there be fower Courts for the Jurisdiction aforesaid held in one yeare at ye dayes and tymes hereafter mentioned viz upon the first day of the first Month upon ye first day of the Fourth month on the first day of the Seventh month and upon ye first day of the Tenth month

Item That the first court shall be held at Gloucester aforesaid upon the first day of September next

Item That all warrants and Summons shall be drawne by the Clarke of the Courte and Signed by a Justice and soe Subscribed to the Sheriff or his Deputy to Execute

Item That the Coppy of each warrant &c shall Contayne or Intimate the nature of

"Returned by ye Sheriff for Jurors

William Hunt	Daniel Reading
Wm. Bate	John Ithell
Will. Albeson	John Bethell
William Lovejoy	Tho. Matthewes
Henry Wood	Will. Dalboe
Jonathan Wood	Antho. Neilson
Richard Arnold	John Matson
John Hugge	Thomas Bull
James Atkinson	John Taylor
Thomas Sharp	Will Sailsbury
Tho. Chaunders	Math Medcuff
George Goldsmith	William Cooper
John Ladde	

"The following were attested on ye Jury

William Hunt	Geo. Goldsmith
Will: Alberson	Daniel Reading
Hen: Wood	John Ithell
John Hugge	Tho. Matthews
Ja: Atkinson	Will: Dalboe
Tho. Sharp	John Taylor
Tho. Chaunders	Will: Sailsbury

The First Fines Against Absent Jurors

"These fouer Will: Bate, Will: Lovejoy, John Matson and Will: Cooper not appearing the jury did Present and with ye concurrence of the Court ffyne each and every of them, Ten shillings a peice for thier non apearance and the Clerk was ordered to give the Sheriff a warrant for the speedy gathering of the said ffines.

The Court adjourned for one houer and a halfe

The First Law Suit

"Upon ye Complaynt of Rebecka Hammon against her late Master Robert Zane for want of nesesary apparel as allsoe his failure in some covenants that he was obliged by Indenture to perform

"It was ordered yt ye said said Rob: Zane before ye first day of month next should finde and give ye said Rebecka Hamman apparell to the value of three pounds, seaven shillings, and six pence and allsoe 50 acres of Land to her and her heirs for ever and in case ye sd Rob: shall dislicke this order then to stand to and abide by ye Act of Assembly in the like case provided. Whereupon ye said Rob: Zane did at last declare that he would comply with ye aforesaid order and answer ye same

Ear - Mark Registrations Ordered

"Notwithstanding all persons keeping Hoggs within this County of Gloucester were summonened to appear at this Court and give in the

markes of thier hoggs and other Cattel in order to be approved and Recorded yet there be many that appeared not nor made any Returne of thier markes, and therefore the Clerk was ordered to warne in those wch had made default, to his owne house and there take account and Register thier markes by severall sumons written and fixt on the moste usuall and publick places in this County before the last day of 8 month next.

The Sheriff Wanted His Fees

"Upon William Warners desire of an order for his ffees in serving a summons on Hen: Treadway. It was ordered that Jno. Test plaintiff in yt action and Imployer of ye Sheriff should pay ye said Sheriff his ffees and in case he should Refuse, The Clerk was ordered to give ye Sheriff a warant in order to Compel ye sd Test thereunto

The Records of the Second Term of Court

"At the Court held at Red Banke on the 10 day of ye 10 month by adjournment from the first day of the same month (there being then not a full Bench) for the Jurisdiction of the County of Gloucester Ano. Dom. 1686

Justices present upon ye bench
Andrew Robeson
Francis Collins
Thomas Thackera
John Wood

"Returned by ye Sherriffe uppon ye Grand Inquest

Thomas Matthews	Fred. Hopman
Daniel Reading	Mons Johnson
William Bate	Juste Justeson
Benja: Bramon	John Watkins
John Bethell	Phill: Pawle
Christ: Watkins	Math: Medcalfe
Will Cobb	Peter Matson
Hance Hopman	

These all appeared and were attested except William Cobb

The First Indictment for Theft

"The Grand Jury returne and finde a Bill against one Andrew Wilke for stealing severall goods of Tennis Lins from a house in Philadelphia

The Grand Jury Complained About the Justices

"The Grand Jury present the neglect of Magistrates for their not making a full bench on ye 1st day of this Instant for which cause ye Court was adjourned till this present 10 day

The First Lawsuit About Land

"William Dalbo Complaynes agst Peter Matson in an Action of ye case for that ye said Peter ye defend. denyeth to make ye sd Woolley ye plaint. a Title to Land purchased of ye defend. by the said plaint. and by contract oblieged thereunto to wch ye def. pleads ye purchase money not paide

"Returned by the Sheriffe upon ye Traverse Jurye

William Cooper	Jno Woolerston
John Ashton	Tho: Gardiner
Jonath. Wood	Jnon Browne
John Orion	Hance Peterson
John Hopman	Tho: Green
Benja: Holt	Edw: Eglinton
Martin Holt	Tho: Sharpe
Tho: Bowman	James Atkinson

"The following appeared and were attested well and truly to try ye Cause depending betwixt Woolley Dalbo plnt. and Peter Matson def.

William Cooper	Thomas Bowman
John Ashton	Thomas Gardiner
Jonath: Wood	Thomas Green
John Orion	Edw: Eglington
John Hopman	Thomas Sharpe
Martin Holt	James Atkinson

Verdict

"The Jury after some tyme of Withdrawing to consider of thier verdict they brought in for the plaint according to Declaration with Costes of Suit

Judgment

"The Court awards that Peter Matson the defend shall make and seal the plaint Woolley Dalboe a firme Deed and good Asshureance of ye Lande and that Woolley Dalboe shall pay the Remaynding parte of ye purchase money if any behinde at the executing of ye deed and that Peter Matson shall allowe the Cost of Suite according to the verdict"

The First Conviction and Sentence to Servitude for Theft

"Andrew Wilke brought to ye bar and the Indictment against him for ffeloney being read, he pleaded guilty in maner and forme

"The aforesaid Jury was Impaneled and Attested upon his Triall and true deliverance to make between our Lord the King and the prisoner at the Bar &c"

Verdict

"The Jury brought in Andrew Wilke the prisoner guilty in maner and forme and that the said prisoner ought to make pay to the prosecutor the sume of sixteen pounds."

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Sentenced

"The Bench Appoints that ye said Andrew Wilke shall pay ye aforesaid sixteen pounds by way of servitude viz: If he will be bound by Indentures to ye prosecutor then to serve him ye terme of four years, but if he condescended not thereto then ye Court Awarded that he should be a servant and so abide for the term of five years and to be accomadated in the tyme of his Servitude by his Master with meat, Drink, Cloathes, Washing and Lodgeing according to ye Custome of ye Country and fitt for such a Servant."

Another Land Suit

"John Reading plaint Complaines against John Ithell def. in an action of ye Case for that he the said defend hath unjustly claimed the estate of ye said plaint and hath severall tymes publickly scandalized and defamed the title of ye sd plaintiffe to his house and plantation

"The Jury which was Impanelled and attested well and truly to try this cause was ye same with ye former onely Thomas Bowman was excepted against by the Defend: and Will: Salsbury was attested in his roome

"The Defend: pleads a Justification of ye wordes as in ye declaration and puts ye plaint upon proof of his Title in order to Invallidate wch the defandant gave unto Court the following attestation

The Testimony

"Philadelphia Sept ye 10 1686

These are to Certify whome it may Concerne that ye day above written appeared before me Wm Goodbody and then attested as followeth viz That about June last was two year, he was Requested by John Ithell to assist him and Thomas Sharpe with an Indian to run a line on ye upper side of his plantation (in Timber Creek) to secure a certain peice of Meaddow grounde and further declares that about March or April following, understanding the Surveyor was there Surveying Land for John Ithell Came thither to demand a 100 acres he bought of ye said Ithell and was promised to be surveyed to him joyneing to Ithell in ye sd Creek. I attending ye Surveyor to have it laid out according to promise but John Reading and ye Surveyor went out from us together and surveyed the sd Lande to ye use of ye said Reading Contrary to knowledge or consent of John Ithell to his great dissatisfaction and trouble

William Goodbody

Attested before me the day
and year above written

Humphrey Morrey

"The Plaint then proceeded to prove

1. The English Title by producing a large conveyance from the grand proprietors in England
2. The Indian purchase money paid by the evidence of Tho: Bowman
3. His right of survey by a warrant from ye Commissioners for ye tyme being
4. And that the land was laid out and surveyed both in pursuance of an order by the governor and Agreement made betwixt ye sd plaint and def: at Burlington Consonant to the Rules and orders of ye province in ye Case made and allsoe with the knowledge, consent and good likeing of the said Defendant he ye said plaintiff proved by the following attestation

"Tho: Bowman being attested saith as followeth

That it was agreed at Burlington between John Reading and John Ithell that if John Reading would permit John Ithell and the Surveyor to goe down and run the line according to the governors order and then come down a day after he the said defend: would be willing to permit the land to be set out pursuant to the governors order whereto the said John Reading did consent and the said John Ithell and the Surveyor accordingly went down together"

"Daniel Reading attested saith as follows

That John Ithell, John Reading, William Stone, the Surveyor and others being at John Ithells house the sd John Reading said that he and the Surveyor would goe see to find some land adjacent to his that might please the said John Reading whereupon the said John Ithell said that he was freely willing that he should doe soe and told him yt he was welcome to it, and if a certaine peice of Meaddow lyeing on a Branch of ye Creek would doe him any kindness he the said J. Reading might have yt too. And when the land was surveyed to the said John Reading, and that the said John Ithell was acquainted therewith. he related that he was well pleased that we were like to be neighbours and he hoped all former differences would be forgotten and that we should live for the future neighbourly and lovingly together and treated the said John Reading and Company with drams and such provision that he had in his house

"William Stone being attested saith ye same with Dan: Reading

"Thomas Sharpe being attested saith as followeth

That whereas John Ithell saith yt the house where John Reading and the plantation which he now enjoys is William Steels I the said Thomas Sharp affirme that that Tract of land was never legally surveyed to Will: Steel nor to John Ithell in his behalfe before it was surveyed to John Reading"

"Justice Collins affirmed that the said John Ithell declared that the said John Reading were satisfied and agreed Concerning thier Landes"

Verdict

"The Jury withdrew to Considder of thier verdict and after some tyme they brought in for the Plaintiff two pence Damage with costs of suit

Judgment

"The Court awards The defend to make pay according to the verdict
"The Court adjourneth till ye 8th houer on ye morrow morning

More Jurors Fined

"December 11th. The Court being Sate these three persons following viz William Cobb, John Browne and Hance Peterson were by ye bench fined each and every one of them ten shillings apiece for thier non appearance upon the Jury and the Clark ordered to give the Sherif a warrant for the speedy gathering in of the said ffines

How the Court Expenses Were Paid

"An Account being given in Court of Severall persons that have killed Hoggs without any knowne owners although marked Namely William Cooper one Hogge worth twelve shillings John Hugge one hogge at ten shillings and William Warner one Boare at Seaven shillings. It was ordered that the said sums of twelve, Ten and Seaven shillings should be paid respectively by the three aforesd persons and the Sheriff to collect ye same and it with the severall fines of sundry persons not appearing upon the Jury to be paid in order to defray the publick charge of the Court both at Gloucester on ye 1st of ye mth last and this present tyme at Red bank now

Peter Matson Refused to Pay Court Costs

"Whereas there is a verdict and judgment had and obtained against Peter Matson of little Mantua Creek at the suit of Wooley Dalboe plnt and the said Peter Matson denying to pay Court Charges although requested thereto by the bench, the Clerk was ordered to give a warrant to the Sheriffe to leavy the same by way of distress upon the goods and chattels of ye aforesd Peter Matson and make sale thereof returning the over plus to owner [if any be]

Four Public Appraisers Appointed — Their Fees Fixed

"The Court appoints Tho: Gardiner, John Bethell, William Alberson and George Goldsmith to be publick Appraisers within ye County of Gloucester of all such goods and chattells which shall be Distrained either by the Sherrif or other officers and come to their view and of trespasses betwixt party and party and such other things wherein appraisers shall be wanted or their help and judgment requested and alsoe order if the aforesd Appraisers shall Travell above two miles to make any

appraisement of goods &c they shall be paid for thier labour three pence for each mile and twelve pence in ye pound for every twenty shillings in value of goods. And so they were attested to Discharge thier Duty ffaithfully makeing true appraisements according to the Just and equall value of such goods and things Comitted to thier Charge without any ffavour or Affection but to the best of thier knowledge, skill and understanding

"The Cause depending between Rich: Laurence and Will Warner def: is with consent of both partyes to be continued till the next Court which shall be held at Gloucester on ye first day of ye Second month next"

Minutes of the Third Term of Court

"At the Courte held at Gloucester for the Jurisdiction of ye County of Gloucester on the first day of the 2nd Month 1687

"Justices present upon ye Bench

Andrew Robeson
Thomas Thackera
Francis Collins
John Wood

"Returned by ye Sherriffe in ye Grande Inquest

Henry Wood	Antho: Neilson
Casper Fish	Tho: Chaunders
Marcus Lawrence	Tho: Sharpe
Benja: Braman	John Ladde
Phill: Paule	Dan'l: Reading
Woolly Dalboe	John Bethell
Will: Higgins	John Hugge
Math: Medcuffe	Woolly Derickson

These all appeared and were attested except Thomas Sharpe

"The Grand Jury haveing thier Charge given they withdrawe
"Returned upon the Travers Jurye

Will Hunt	Rich: Russell
James Atkinson	Steph: Penston
Wm Cooper	Tho: Gardiner
John Ashton	Wm Salsbury
Jonath Wood	James Thomas
John Taylor	George Goldsmith
John Key	Andrew Robeson Ju
John Willis	Richard Arnold

"They all appeared except Andrew Robeson Jur and were attested upon ye Tryalls following all except Wm Salsbury, Geo: Goldsmith and Rich: Arnold"

A Double Penalty Enforced

"James Hill plnt complaines against Peter Matson in an action of debt for that the sd Peter Matson ye Defend neglected to pay to ye sd Plaint: the sume of ffive pounds and eleaven shillings current silver money according to ye tenour of one penall Bill of the sume of Eleaven pounds and two shillings and payable at or before the 21st day of ye 8th month 1686

"These following were attested on ye Jury well and truly to try ye Cause depending betwixt James Hill, plaint and Peter Matson defendt. according to thier evidence &c

"The declaration being read the defend. acknowledges the Debt And the Jury for a short tyme went aside to consider of thier verdict and soon brought in as followeth

Verdict

"We of ye Jury findeth for ye plaintif with costs of suite"

Judgment

"The Bench awards that payment be made according to ye verdict"

"The Defendt Refusing to pay ye Courte Charge or any more than the just and single debt the Clarke was ordered to give a warrant for the Sherriffe to make distress for the penalty of ye Bill with Costs of Suite according to ye verdict

More Land Title Contention

"Richard Wright Plaint complaynes against Thomas Howell defendt in an action of ye Case for yt ye said defendt. Refuseth to sett out and asshure one hundred acres of Land to ye said plaint: according to a Contract made with the defendt. in or about the 12 month 1686

"The Jury impanelled and attested upon this tryall were the same with ye former onely William Cooper by a request made by himselfe he was excused from being on the Jury and George Goldsmith attested in his room

"The Declaration being read the defendt pleads that ye Declaration is uncertaine, repugnant and Insufficient to be answered unto in this Viz: That the defendant the tyme and place in ye Declaration mencioned for ye sume therein specified did contract with and sell to ye saide Defendant the Tract of Lande in the Declaration expessed. And this the def. offers as Cause of Demurrer wch was acknowledged soe to be by ye Bench, and accordingly a Demurr and Barr to the sd action was ordered to be entered

The Courte adjourned till two a clock in the afternoon

The First Suit Concerning Water Rights

"The Grand Jury present Thomas Howell for stopping the water course in a certain Creek or Branch of Coopers Creek contrary to ye lawes of this province &c

"The Court orders and appoints these fouer persons viz: Thomas Thackera, Stephen Penstone, John Key and John Willis to view the sd stoppage and make thier Reporte of ye same at ye next Courte

The First Assault and Battery Case

"Upon ye Complaynt of Thomas Willarde against Caspar ffish for a breach of the Kings peace in assaulting and strikeing of ye Thomas Willarde severall blows &c. The Clark was ordered to bind the said Caspar ffish to the peace wch was accordingly don

"The Courte dissolved but the Grand Jury haveing something under consideration that Requires a longer tyme to deliberate thereof they were adjourned till the 14 day of ye same mth at which time appearing they agreed and ordered as followeth

The First Tax Levied by Gloucester County, Payable in Cereals at Fixed Prices. Assessors and Treasurers Appointed

"That for ye Publick use and concerne for ye County of Gloucester there should be a Tax Leaveyed and Raised upon ye Inhabitants thereof in manner following

"That every owner or posessor of Lande shall pay for every 100 acres of Lande that shall be posessed, taken up or surveyed the sume of one shilling. And that every person keeping cattel within the said County of Gloucester whether oxen, horses or cowes being two years of age shall pay for every head of such Cattell the sum of two pence. And allsoe that all free men having neither lande nor Cattell being sixteen years of age shall pay for their owne heads one shilling P peice.

"The Asessors appointed for ye taxing of every mans estate as aforesaid are Richard Heritage, John Key, Thomas Sharpe, Andrew Robeson Jur and Anthony Neilson whoe are to meet together on or before the twentyeth day of the third month next in order to assess and leavy ye said Tax

"The Treasurers appointed are Henry Wood and Anthony Neilson to whome every person concerned shall bringe in their several Taxations by or before the Twenty ninth day of September next either in silver money or in Corne at the prices following viz

	S	d	
Wheat at	4	0	
Rye	3	0	
Barley at	3	0	P Bushll
Indian Corne at	2	6	
Oates at	2	0	
Indian Peas at	5	0	
Buck wheat at	2	6	

Penalty for Non-Payment of Tax and Fee for Collection

"And in case any person shall Refuse or neglect to bring in thier Tax as aforesaid it shall be lawfull to distriene uppon them for double the vallue with all such charges that shall acrewe for or by reason of distress soe made and any one that findes himself wronged shall repaire to ye next Justice whoe hath power to Redress thier Agrievance. And the Treasurers are hereby ordered to have for thier Receiving and disposall of ye pay two shillings in the pound And that this Tax when Received shall not be disposed on but by the Consent, knowledge and appointment or Approbation of ye Grand Jury for the tyme being"

"This was seen and approved on the 14th day of Aprill by the Justices aforesaid and soe ye Jury was discharged

Early Settlers Fined for Not Helping to Build a Road

"Whereas there were severall persons sumoned to make the Roade betwixt Salem and Burlington by Woolly Dalbo one of the surveyors within the lower Division of ye County of Gloucester and these persons following Refuseing and neglecting to appear or doe their proportion of that work viz Martin Holt, Edward Eglinton, Thomas Matthews, Thomas Gardiner James Thomas, John Test and the occupyes of James Sanderlins plantation The Grand Jury did present and with the consent and concurence of the Court ffine each and every one of the foresaid persons six shillings a peice and the Clark was ordered to give a warrant to leavy ye same by way of Distress to be had and taken upon thier goods and Chattells that should Refuse to make pay of his or thier severall and Respective ffines aforesaid"

Minutes of the Fourth Term of Court, the Last One at Red Bank

"At the Court held at Red-bank for ye Jurisdiction of ye County of Gloucester on ye 1st day of the 4th month Anno 1687

"Justices present on ye Bench
Andrew Robeson
Francis Collins
Thomas Thackera
John Wood

"Returned P. Sheriffe on the Grand Inquest

Wm Hunt	Wolley Dalboe
Wm Bate	John Ithell
Jonathan Wood	Antho: Neilson
Dennis Lynch	Edw: Eglington
Tho Sharpe	Andr: Robeson Ju
John Hugge	Wm Cobb
James Thomas	John Willis
John Anderson	

"All appeared and were attested

"Returned upon ye Travers Jurye

Tho: Gardiner	Juste Justeson
Martin Holt	Tho: Green
Israell Helme Ju	Wm Bromfield
John Ladd	Steph: Penstone
Wm Alberson	John Taylor
Jno Ashton	Rich: Arnold
Geo. Goldsmith	

All appear and were attested upon ye tryalls following except Wm. Bromfield"

The Plaintiff Wanted Land Boundaries Definitely Fixed

"Richard Wright plaint: Complains against Tho Howell deft. in an action of ye Case

"The declaration being read ye deft plads he hath conveyed ye hundred acres of Land mensioned in ye Declaration according to Contract by his allready sealing a deed for ye same to ye Plaint. The Plaint moves that forasmuch as that deed is deficient and wants ye boundaries &c of the lande. That ye defendt may Execute another deed prepared and tendered by the plaint wch Contaynes ye severall Boundaries and Courses according as it is now Surveyed wch ye deft Refuses to doe

"The Jury after withdrawing and some tyme of consideration Returne and finde as followeth

Verdict

"The Jury finds for ye plnt, according to survey with 5 lb damages, Costs of Suite and ye Defent signing of ye deed offered by ye plnt

Judgment

"The Bench awards that Asshurance be made and ye money paid according to verdict"

More About the Burlington - Salem Road

"The Grand Inquest Returne and have agreed that the upper Division of Gloucester County shall meet togeather on ye 10 day of 7 mth next in order to make Bridges and the Roads good within thier limmits leading from Burlington to Salem and whosoever shall Refuse or neglect to give their attendance then haveing lawfull Summons (Except such persons which have allreadye done thier proportion of yt worke) Shall be fined for each and every day of thier so neglecting the sume of ffive shillings. To which ye [Bench] consents"

The Court adjourns for 2 houers

A Lawsuit About Logs

"Walter Price Plaint complains against Daniel Lyndsey defendt in an action of ye Case

"The Declaration being read the deft plads ye loggs mencioned in

the declaration were delivered to ye plaint: and the Bill obliging ye delivery thereof was given up to ye defnd and by him cancelled. The plaint proves the Defent to have noe right to ye loggs, that they were never legally delivered but detained and kept from ye plaint"

Verdict

"The Jury find for ye plaint Eight pounde debt Three pound intrest and damages with Costs of suite"

Judgment

"The Bench awards the defendts payment of ye severall sums according to Verdict and order ye Clerke to give out Execution if ye defendt neglects payment of ye plaint above ye space of ffourteen dayes next following"

Minutes of the Fifth Term of Court

"At the Court held at Gloucester for the Jurisdiction thereof on the first day of ye 7 mth 1687

Justices present upon the Bench are

John Songhurst
ffrancis Collins
John Wood

The Grand Inquest

Tho Matthews	Samll Tombes
Tho Thackera	James Thomas
Jno Bethell	John Roberts
Rob: Zane	Dennis Linch
Tho: Dennis	Rich: Arnold
Jno: Ithell	Rich: Heritage
Pet Matson	Jno: Robberts
Woolley Dalbo	Steph: Penston
Wm. Alberson	Timothy Hancock
Rich: Wright Ju	Math. Medcalfe

The Travers Jury

William Hunt	Benj. Whitehead
Tho: Gardiner	Geo: Goldsmith
Sam: Coles	James Atkinson
John Key	Wm Bate
Tho Howell	John Hugge
Jno: Willis	James Thomas

The Construction of A House Delayed by Scarcity of Nails

Arbitrators Appointed

"The aforesaid Jurors were attested upon the cause depending between Jno. Test and Wm. Salsbury defendt for ye defents not building of a house by ye tyme agreed on

"The Declaration being read the Defendt pleads ye house remayned unfinished for want of nails from ye plnt and the he is not fitted for a Tryall by reason of ye sickness of those witnesses he desired to have at Court

"After several debates both partyes agree to chuse four honest men for ending all differences betwixt them depending viz ffrancis Collins and William Hunt for ye plaint and Thomas Matthews and Tho: Gardiner for ye defend to meet at Gloucester on ye 10 day of Instant

"The Defendt to pay all court charge hitherto contracted and both partyes obliege themselves to stand to ye Award of the 4 persons aforesaid under penalty of fifty pounds to be forfeited by him yt shall Refuse

"The Court adjourns till 3 ho. in the afternoon"

Two Indentured Servants Complained

"Upon ye Complaint and Petition of John Ashbrook agst James Atkinson his former Master for want of Land and other neseseryes according to the tenour of his Indenture it was ordered that ye said James Atkinson should procure within ye space of one month an order for ye setting out of 50 acres of lande for ye said John Ashbrook within the Province of Pensilvania and allsoe should allow and give to him one good new wastecoate and two Hoes

"Upon ye Complaint and petition of Rebecka Hammon agst Robt. Zane her former Master for want of Land and other nesesaryes according to the tenour of her indenture she was refered to a former court order made uppon ye same Complaint the 1st of 7 Ano 1686"

A Time Limit Fixed for Completion of the Salem Road

"The Grand Jury Returne and Agree that ye Overseer of ye High wayes doe not fail to cause the Roade leading to Salem to be well Repaired the twelvth of this Instant

Sheriff Wm. Warner and John Wood Indicted

"The Grand Jury present Wm Warner ye late Sherriffe for his default in not appearing at Court he haveing several Concernes in his hands thereunto belonging and sundry accompts there to make up

"The Grand Jury present Jno: Wood and William Warner as betrayers of the Rights and privillidges belonging to the County of Gloucester by being concerned and assisting in ye conveyance of Henry Treadway a notorious criminal of this County (where he was obliged to appear and receive his tryall) unto the Court at Burlington Contrary to the Trust

in them reposed to ye perverting of justice to ye ill example of others &c

"The Bench orders the Clerke to give a Sumons to ye Sheriffe to be served upon William Warner to oblige his appearance at ye Courte on ye 9 day of Instant 7

"The Court adjourns till the 9th day of this present 7 mth"

Minutes of the Sixth Term of Court

"At the Court held at Gloucester for the Jurisdiction thereof on ye first day of ye 10 Mth 1687

"Present on ye Bench

Andrew Robeson
ffran: Collins
Christ: Watkins
Sam: Spicer

"The Grand Jury consisted of the persons following

Tho: Thackera	Marcus Lawrence
John Test	Tho: Green
Rich Heritage	Rich'd Wright
John Key	Charles Springer
John Hugg Ju	Wm Cobb
Jno: Willis	Juste Justeson
Tim: Hancock	Antho: Neilson
Casper ffiske	

"The Travers Jury

Wm Hunt	Geo: Goldsmith
Tho Gardiner	Steph Penston
Jam. Atkinson	Thomas Sharpe
Wm Bate	John Robberts
Jno Hugge Se	Rob Zane
Sam: Coles	James Thomas

The Sheriff Was Fined

"The aforesaid Jurors were attested well and truly to try the cause depending between James Hill plnt and William Warner defent. late Sheriffe for ye County of Gloucester wherefore the Sd defendt Refused to levey an Execution to him directed to be served upon ye goods &c of one Peter Matson

"The Declaration being read the defendt pleaded the insufficiency of the writt but yt being over Ruld the Jury went out to Considder of their verdict, at thier Returne finde as followeth

Verdict

"We finde for ye plaintiffe wth costs of Suite

Judgment

"The Bench awardes the defendant to pay to ye plaint the sume of two pounds two shillings and six d with costs of Suite

One Suit Postponed, Three Withdrawn

"The Cause betwixt Nathaniel Lukins and Woolley Dalbo plaints against John Ithell being called and ye said Dalboe not appearing the said Lukins craved a Refference till next Courte which was granted him by ye Bench

"The Action of Ralfe ffretwell plaint against Daniel Lyndsey withdrawne

"The Action of George fforman plaint against Peter Dalbo alias Matson defendt withdrawne

"The action of Geo: fforman plnt against Edward Eglington defendt withdrawne

"The Court Adjourns till 3 houer in ye afternoon"

A Bridge and Road to be Built at County Expense

"Francis Collins engageth to ye Grand Jury to make a sufficient Bridge over ye upper Branch of Gloucester River and allsoe to marke out ye way playnely and sufficiently fro from ye said Bridge to and through the Indian ffield in ye uper side of the said Bridge. The Countery paying him for his labour in doing the same.

Five More Bridges on the Salem Road Ordered to be Made Serviceable Within Four Months Under Penalty

"Complaynt being made to ye Grand Jury for ye want of sufficient Bridges in five severall places in yt pte of ye Road leading to Salem which ought to be made good by Andrew Robeson Ju and Woolley Dalboe overseers of ye Highwayes wch said persons ye Grand Jury do present for thier neglect and default therein. The Court orders that if ye Bridgges be not made good and ye way passable without danger on or before ye 10th day of ye 2d mth next the overseers shall be severely fined at ye discretion of ye Court.

Two More Tax Receivers Appointed—One in the Third Tenth and One in the Fourth Tenth

"There appearing necessity of appointing two persons more for the Receiving ye Tax to suit ye Conveniency of ye people The Grand Jury nominate Andrew Robeson Ju for ye lower parte of ye County and Tho: Sharp for Newton Creek wch ye Bench assents to and likewise order yt the sd Tax be brought into ye Receivers at or before ye first mth next upon penalty laid by ye Courte and Grande Jury at ye first leveying thereof

Constable Staves Ordered

"The Grand Jury order Anthony Neilson to provide two Constable Stave for ye use of ye County to wch the Bench assents

John Wood and William Warner Indicted Again

"The Grand Jury present John Wood and Will Warner for Conveying forth of this County two persons Thereof namely Henry Treadway and Mary Driver to receive thier Tryalls at Burlington Court Contrary to ye Rights and privillidges of this County to ye perverting of Justice &c

"The Bench orders this presentment to be referred till next Court at wch tyme ye sd John Wood is ordered to appear

Defiant Jurors Fined

"These five persons following viz Tho: Chaunders, Wm. Hewlin, Wm Matlock, James Justeson and Geo Goldsmith being sumoned and Refuseing to appear as Jurors at this present Court the Grand Jury did present and with the concurrence of ye Bench fyne each and every of them ten shillings a peice for thier severall defaults and ye Clerk was ordered to give out Warrants to leavy ye same by way of distress upon his or thier goods or Chattells that should refuse to make payment thereof.

Minutes of the Seventh Term of Court

"At ye Court held at Gloucester (for ye Jurisdiction thereof) on ye first day of ye first month Ano 1687*

Present on ye Bench
Andrew Robeson
ffrancis Collins — Justices
Jno Songhurst**
Christ: Watkins

"The Grand Inquest

Thomas Matthews	Sam'll Tombes
Will: Hunt	Benja: Braman
Will: Alberson	Antho: Neilson
Robt Zane	Rich: Arnold
Will: Warner	Martin Holt
James Thomas	Woolley Dalboe
Will Salsbury	Peter Matson
Rich: Wright	Tho: Dennis

"The Travers Jury

Tho Thackera	John Bethell
Wm Royden	Thomas Sharpe
Jno Test	Geo: Goldsmith
Jno Hugge	Jno Ashton
Will Bates	Wm Cooper
James Atkinson	Rich: Heritage

* 1687/8

**A passenger on the Welcome

"These fouer Geo: Smith, Jno Appleton, Will Hewlin & Will: Matlock were summoned for Jurors but appeared not

John Ithell Confessed Judgment

"The cause between Nathaniel Lukins & Woolly Dalboe against John Ithell being Called The sd Deft John Ithell Confesseth Judgment agst himselfe for ye debt of seaven pounds and ten shillings according to Declaration And upon ye defts moveing for ye suspension of Execution The Bench Awards (According as ye Plaint & defendt agree) that Execution shall be granted against ye defendt if ye said debt be not paid to ye plaint within ye space of two months next following in Silver Coined money and current in ye province of West Jersey

John Wood Apologized

"The presentment of ye Grand Jury the last Court against John Wood for ye Conveying of Henry Treadway and Mary Driver two notorious delinquents forth of this County to Receive thier Tryalls at Burlington to ye betraying of ye Countyes privillidges &c being read the sd John Wood spake as followeth:

"Since I understand that this County hath taken offence at & with my proceedings concerning Henry Treadway & Mary Driver, I am hartily sorry that I ever gave them that cause of offence against the County nor any therein but that it was my ignorance that occationed the same. I do desire that ye sd County would be pleased to Remitt and pass by ye Same

Witness my hand

John Wood"

The First Ferry Across the Delaware River

"It is proposed to ye Bench yt a fferry very needfull & much wanted from Jarsey to Philadelphia and yt William Roydens house is lookt upon as a place convenient and the said William Royden a person suitable for that Imploy and therefore an order desired from ye Bench that a fferry may be there fixed &c To which ye bench Assents and refer it to ye Grand Jury to Methodize ye same and fix ye Rates thereof

John Reading, Clerk of the Court, was Plaintiff In A Suit

"The Cause of Jno Reading plt against John Loyd Ju & Obadiah Loyd defendts in an action of Trespass being called John Key in place of John Reading was Constituted Clerk during ye said Tryall

"After ye declaration Read & ye Case opened the Defendts move for a suspension of ye Cause until ye next Courte

"The Court Adjournes till—a clock in ye afternoon

A Suit About A Bill of Exchange

"The Court being met ye Cause betwixt Samull Coles plnt & Henry Wood defndt being called the persons before mencioned * * * ported on ye Jury

"The Declaration being read ye defendant pleads ye first bill of Exchange paid for as much as it was not Returned protested and that Eliz Coles had noe right to demand ye money of Sarah—ay haveing noe order from Clemonds to Receive ye same and likewise that ye Bills were not lawfully dilligently and in due time presented to Sarah Cassway for payment thereof

Verdict

"The Jury returne and finde for ye defendt with costs of Suit

Judgment

"The Bench awards Judgment according to ye verdict

John Reading Won His Lawsuit. Jurors and Testimony

"—— former Cause between John Reading and Jno & Obadiah Loyd being again Called ye Plaint John Reading moves for a Tryall —— Bench condescendeth to ye sd plnt —— provided in ye sd Tryall finding noe Reasonable cause to oppose it in point of Justice

"The Jury attested to try ye Cause are as followeth

Tho: Thackera	Thomas Sharpe
Wm Royden	Geo: Gouldsmith
John Test	Jno: Ashton
John Hugge	Wm Cooper
Wm Bate	Rich: Heritage
James Atkinson	John Bethell

"The Declaration being read & ye defts refusing to plead ye plaint proceeded to prove his Title to ye Lande by ye Evidence of Daniel Reading & William Stone according to their several attestations

"The testimony of Dan: Reading

"John Reading said to John Ithell in or about ye year 1684 that he & the Surveyor viz. Dan: Leeds would goe out to find some lande adjoining or near to ye said Ithells that might be Conveynient for a plantation to wch ye said John Ithell bid him doe soe for he was freely willing saying Survey any where you have a minde for I will not be to your hinderance at wch ye Surveyor and ye said John Reading went forth and liked ye lande soe well that he immediately Surveyed it, when don ye sd Jno Reading came back and informed ye above mencioned Jno Ithell what he had don how that he had surveyed a Tract of land on ye lower side of his adjoyneing to his lower line at wch ye sd Jno Ithell was mighty well pleased saying he was Sattisfied therewith & hoped for ye future they should live loveingly and be good neighbors and treated ye said John Reading with drams & c. Daniel Reading"

"The Testimony of Will Stone

"The night before my Master Jno Reading's land was surveyed we did lodge at Mr. Ithells house, in ye morneing my master said he would goe see wt land he could find to wch Mr. Ithell did answer goe take where you will & wellcome for I have done we did then goe & look upon ye land and afterward surveyed it, haveing soe don we did returne to Mr. Ithells house. My Master told Mr. Ithell wt land he had taken up & that he did Joyne to him and that we would be his neighbour to wch Mr. Ithell did Answer it is very well I hope we shall be good neighbours and live loveingly together

Will Stone"

"The said William Stone gives in his Evidence to ye Trespass as followeth viz The he saw ye sd Defends viz John Loyd Jur & Obadiah Loyd working upon a Lyne betwixt Jno Reading & John Ithell they being upon John Readings Land notwithstanding they being discharged by ye sd John Reading

Verdict

"The Jury returne & finde for ye plaint with cost of suit & fouer shillings dammage

Judgment

"The Bench awards Judgment according to ye Verdict

The Defendants Appealed to the General Assembly

"* * * Craves an Appeal to ye Assembly and the Court admitts it John Songhurst & Will * * * and * * * that ye denfts shall appear at ye next Assembly holden at Burlington to prosecute ye appeal against Jno Reading plaintiff

Delinquent Taxes Ordered to be Collected

"The Grand Jury desire that ye Bench would please to order ye Constables of the County of Gloucester to take an account of ye Receivers of ye late County Tax assessed upon land and cattell for the defraying of publick charges & give notice to such that are behind in thier payment that they bring it in to ye Receivers appointed for that purpose and in case of failure to grant warrants of distress The Bench orders ye Constables to goe to the severall Receivers and know of them whoe is behind and hath not paid ye sd tax and then give notice to ye partyes to bring in thier severall & respective proportions of ye Tax within ye space of fourteen dayes after Int—given them thereof by ye Constables or otherwise to be distriened on for double the vallue and the Clerke to give out warrants & order of Court for yt purpose for all except such that have served on ye Assembly & thereby Ctrs to ye County.

John Ithell Indicted for Cutting Down Trees on Unsurveyed Land

"The Grand Jury present John Ithell for cutting or causing to be cutt about twenty Timber Tree upon land untaken up & carrying ye same away about ye later end of ye 11 mth 1687 contrary to ye lawes of this province &c

"The Bench orders that this presentment be Referred till next Court against wch ye Clerk is ordered to draw an indictment against sd Ithell in order to bring him to tryall for ye same

Francis Collins Employed by the Grand Jury. Jurors Fined

"Francis Collins engageth to ye Grand Jury to furnish * * * at ye head of Gloucester River within three weeks * * * Geo * * * Jno Appleton, Wm Hewlin Wm Matlock were fined for default as jurors

[Last of page badly damaged]

Some Loose Papers Pertaining to Our Earliest Courts

The Grand Jury Ordered the First County Tax

"We the Grand Jury doth order and agree that forty pounds be levied upon the County of Gloucester for the defraying of public charges of the said County to say upon all lands in possession and all handicraft men that hath noe land and all laboring men by their powles [polls] that hath noe land."

Gloucester ye
1:2 mo. 1687

Henry Wood, foreman.

A Summons for Daniel Linsey and Another for Ex-Sheriff Warner

To ye high sherriff for ye county of Gloucester or his Deputy greeting:

These are by the King's authority in the name of Edward Bylling Governor of this province to require you to the summons Daniel Linsey of the Lower Hook planter in an action of a case personally to appear at the court to be held at Red Bank for ye jurisdiction of ye county of Gloucester on ye first day of ye fourth month next then and there to answer the suit and complaint of Walter Prise? of in an action of a case and make return hereof ye doings herein at the same court wherein this shall be your sufficient warrant given under my hand and seal this day of the third month Anno Dom 1687

C Prov.

[On the reverse side of this appears the following:]

TO YE HIGH SHERRIFF, ETC.

Whereas ye grand jury at ye last court held at Gloucester did present William Warner late sherriff for his default in not appearing at ye sd court having several accounts and concerns there to make and deliver up and likewise him ye sd William Warner did present for sundry other miscarriages and misdemeanors by him committed, to ye betraying of ye rights and privileges of ye county of Gloucester to ye perverting of justice and contrary to ye trust in him reposed this is therefore by ye King's authority and in ye name of Edward Billings Governor of this province to require you upon sight hereof to give summons to sd Wm. Warner for his personal appearance at ye court to be held at Gloucester on ye 9th day of this instant or he will answer the contrary at his utmost perrill then and there to make answer to such things which shall be

alleged against him and to be proceeded against by due course at law and whereof you are not to fail and for your so doing this shall be your warrant given under my hand and seal this third day of seventh month 1687.

John Reading, Clerk
Per order of Court.

The Grand Jury Mentioned the Authority for the Establishing of the Gloucester County Court and Resented Infringements of Its Rights

County Gloucester ye first of ye 7 mo 87.
The Grand Jury presents, etc.

That whereas ye Govr and General Assembly hath given their assent for ye holding of several Courts in this Province in particular yt of ye county afforesaid haveing there by Jurydistion for ye tryall of all mallifacters therein and that a heanious and notorius act having of late been commited by Henry Tredway of ye said County who was apprehended and was to have received his tryall in ye afforesaid County according to ye English laws and those of this xxxx [one whole line missing] and William Warner bin convead to Burlington and hath received his said tryall contrary to rights and privilidges belonging to this County we can doe no less but signifye our resentment of so grate and unsufferable [word gone] abuses and breach of priviledges.

Thos Matthews

Delinquent Taxpayers Ordered to Make Payment

The Grand Jury desires ye bench would be pleased to order ye constables of this county to take and account of ye receivers of ye late tax and rate assessed upon land and cattle for ye defraying of public charges and to give notice to such as are behind in their payment that they bring in to ye receivers appointed for that purpose and in no case fail to grant warrants of distress.

Tho. Mathews, foreman

On the reverse side the following is written.

The Bench orders that the constables go to ye several receivers and know of them who is behind and hath not paid the tax and then give notice to ye said persons to bring in their several and respected proportions of the tax within ye space of fourteen days after information given them thereof by the constable or otherwise to be distrained or double ye value except such persons that are creditors to ye Gloucester County by their services on ye assembly.

Salem Road Ordered Repaired

County of Gloucester ye 1 day ye [7] mo 1687 the Grand Jury orders ye overseers of ye highway leading to Salem to bee forth with

repared and that they beegon in hand with ye 12th of this instant.

Tho. Mathews

Complaint of Rebecca Homan

The Humble petition of Rebaca Homan

Whereas the Court held here in the year 1686 did order Robert Zane to pay unto me fifty ackers of land with aparell which he refuses to pay therefore I desire my redress from this bench.

Rebaca Homan

Referred to a former Court order made ye the 7th mth. 1686.

The First Docket

For Tryall ye next Court held at Gloucester for the Jurisdiction thereof, on the first day of September 1686.

By writ the 22nd of June	John Test of Anokaning, yeoman, against Edward Eglington of Great Mantoes Creek Mason in an action of ye case.
By summons ye 25th of June By summons ye 26th of July the 1st summons not being executed.	John Test of Anokaning plaintiffe, against Henry Treadway of Red Bank defendant in an action of Trover and Conversion.

The Second Docket

For Tryall ye next court to be held at Red Bank for the jurisdiction of Gloucester the first day of December 1686.

By summons the 13th day of Nov. 1686	Henry Treadway of Red Bank, yee. against Daniell Lyndsey of ye lower hook planter in an action of the case Agreed before tryall.
By summons ye 15th of 9th month 1686	John Reading of Gloucester River against John Ithells of Steele branch in an action of ye case.
By summons ye 16th day of 9th 1686	Richard Lawrence of ye lower hook gent., against William Warner of Woodbury Creek Sheriff in an action of debt by consent to be continued till ye next court.

By summons ye 17th of 9th mo. 1686	John Shin of Springfield yeo. against Richard Arnold upon Delaware near Gloucester planter in an action of the case. Agreed before tryall.
By summons ye 17th of 9th month 1686	William Dalboe of little Mantoe Creek yeo. against Peter Matson of ye same place yeo. in an action of the case.
By summons ye 19th of 9th month 1686	William Coles of Oldmans Creek, carpenter against Daniell Lyndsey of the Lower hook planter in an action of the case. Agreed before tryall.

The Third Docket

For Triall the next Court to be held at Gloucester on the 1st day of ye second month 1687.

By summons ye 16th of ye 9 month 1686 agreed by consent to be continued from ye last court to thiss	Richard Lawrence of ye lower hook gent. plaintiff against William Warner of Woodbury Creek, sheriffe defendant in an action of debt. Agreed
By summons the day January 1686	James Hill of Burlington sheriffe, plaintiffe against Peter Matson of little Manto Creek defendant in an action of debt.
By summons the 3 day of March 1686	John Hollingshead of Northamton River yeo. planter against John Dalboe of great Mantoe Creek planter defendant, in an action of the case. Agreed.
By summons the 10 day of the 1st month 1686	Andrew Robeson of New Stockholme, yeoman plaintiffe, against Lacy Hooman alias Anderson of Rapapock Creek planter, defendant in an action of ye case. Agreed.
By summons 15 day of 1st month 1686	Robert Turner of Philadelphia merchant against Benjamin Whithead of Coopers Creek yeoman defendant in an action of ye case. Agreed.
By summons the 17th of 1st month 1686.	Richard Wright of Coopers Creek yeo. plaintiffe against Thomas Howell of ye same plaintiffe in an action of ye case.

The Widow of Wm. Frampton Gave Testimony

First of first month 1687

I Elizabeth Frampton relict widow of William Frampton deceased do testify and declare that to my certain knowledge Samuel Coles of West Jersie did sell to my said husband a bill of exchange and that he was to be paid for it in rum but my said husband after he had kept ye said bill a considerable time not having rum to pay returned the said bill with a valuable consideration to take ye said bill

Elizabeth Frampton

Attested before me
the day above written
John Shillson?

Assemblymen's Pay to be Used as Bounty Money for Wolves

Whereas, Divors complayntes has been presented to us of the Grand Jury, censoring the great annoyance and damage that ye doe and commonly sustayne by reason of the wolves and that noe way or meanes hath bin rased to prevent the same: by raysing—A publique bank to encorige those whoo should make it theyer business to distroy them: And whereas there was a tax levyed by the Grand Jury some time past to defray publique charge viz such as this may be and that by some meanes it hath been soe ordered that those whoe have been as members in the generall Assmbly should take theyer respective shares of the said tax as part of theyer payment for theyer sd service and complaynte being made of the Inequallity of the sd proceedor these are therefore to desyer that all without respect of persons may pay it in without any regarde of Assembly men or others; fynding that for raysing another tax will bee difficult and that the immergency of this afayer requires more dilligence for the accomplishment thereof then the paying of Assemblyment doeth at present depending some other way shall be founden out for defraying that charge, therefore we think fitt that the treasurer of our County shall upon sight or receavell of any wolves heades that may be brought unto him by any person or persons that hath killed the same within our County shall have power to defray the same.

The First Coroner's Inquest

The Jurrors impaneled by John Wood Corroner to make inquiry of the death of Easter Thackerey late wife of Thomas Thackerey are as follows:

Will Roydon	Will Alberson
Will Cooper	Tho Dennis
Geo. Goldsmith	Will Hunt
Will Beates	Rich Arnold
Jo Atkinson	Jo. Ashton
Robt. Zane	Isac Hollingam

The above mentioned Juriors doe give their Vardett unanimosly that upon the 5th day of the month called May 1688 the above mentioned Easter Thackery by the accidintall landing of a Sturggon in the River Dillaware and Falling upon the cornew that she was then in caused the same to fill with water and to turn over was the cause of her being drowned in ye river.

Will Roydon Foreman
John Wood Coroner

Gloucester County Ear Marks

The names of such persons that gave in the markes of thier Hogges at the Court held at Gloucester the 1st of 7 mnt 1686 which were there Approved of and ordered to be Registered and a Publick Registry thereof to be kept by the Clark of ye said Court.

Francis Collins
The left ear a hole
Ye right cropt
This mark become Joseph Collins

Thomas Thackera
The left ear a slitt
Ye right cropt

John Wood
The left whole
Right cropt and two slitts
This mark of John Wood
taken by James Brown

Henry Wood
A hance on ye underside
of both ears

Samuel Coles
L small crop, small slit
and a notch
R slit in ye middle

Samuel Spicer
L two slits
R One half cut away

John Taylor
L A swallow tayle and a slit
in the middle
R A swallow tayle
This mark for John Cooper

Thomas Howell
L A square fork
R A long piece cut off
ye upper side

Daniel Howell
L Whole
R Crop and slitt
Jonathan Boltons 1715

Thomas Chaunders
L A notch on underside
R A crop and slitt

Henry Sise
L Two notches
R Cropt

John Ashton
L Cropt
R Slit on ye up side
this mark John Smallwoods

Jonathan Wood
L Notch on foreside
Void
R Crop and slitt

Robart Turner
L Cropt notch on hinder side
R Cropt

George Goldsmith
L Cropt
R Crop and slitt
This became the mark of
Isaac Jennings

James Atkinson
L Crop and slit on upper side
R Whole
became Jonathan Sell

Robert Zane
L A crop
R A slit
became John Hill

William Alberson
L Slit
R Crop and 2 slits

Thomas Sharpe
both ears cropt and slitt
his signature

Richard Arnold
L Whole
R Cropt
became Isaac Hollingams

John Hugge
Both swallow tailed
Sam'l Harrison had this mark

John Reading
L Swallow tailed
R Cropt
John Gill had this

William Warner
L Slit with cut on under side
R Cropt

John Browne
L Slit
R Half moon on the under side
Taken by Levi Peirce ye grandson-in-law of Browne March 28, 1732

William Salsbury
L A piece cut out on under side
R cropt with a hole

Andrew Robeson Ju
L A crop and slit
R Foremost half cut off

Anthony Neilson
Both ears a halfmoon out of undersides

Woolley Dalbo
L Cropt
R A swallow tayle

Peter Dalbo
L Whole
R A swallow taile

Benja Braman
A square fork out of both ears

Israell Helme
L Slit
R Slit and foremost half cut off

Lacye Coleman
L Two half moons on ye hinder side
R Whole

James Justeson
L Whole
R A crop with a cut in the hinder side

John Henderick
Both ears two slitts apeice

William Cobb
Blank—No description

Mathew Medcalfe
R Cropt
L A peice out of the underside
Taken by his son Jacob Medcalfe 6th 4 mo 1722

Jno Test at Jeoff Wainwrights
L Cropt
R a hole

Jno Lad
L Cropt
R Whole
Taken by John Ladd Jr. on the death of his father and then by his widow Hannah Ladd

Wm Hunt
L A half moon on ye upper side
R Slitt

Richard Laurence
L Slitt
R Slitt, hindermost side cut off

John Anderson
L Cropt
R Crop and slitt

Richard Russell
L Half moon in the upper part
R Cropt

William Cooper
L Cropt
R Two holes over against one another

Robert Tate
L A half moon on under side
R A half moon on ye under side and a crop became John Thorn's

Martin Holt
L Slit
R Cropt and slit

William Sharman
L Whole
R A slit third part down and the hindermoste half cut away with a notch under on ye same side

Hance Peterson
L Slitt
R Slitt with a cutt on ye up side

Wooley Derickson
L Cropt and ye upperside a half moon out
R Cropt hole in middle and half moon under side

Hance Hopman
L Swallow taile
R Slitt ½ way and outmost half cutt off

John Matson
L Cropt and slitt
R Whole

John Orrion
L A third part slitt and a peice on ye under side cut off
R Slitt

Juste Justeson
L Cropt and slitt
R A cut on ye under side

John Hopman
L A Swallow taile with a half moon on ye under side
R A swallow taile

Freddrick Hopman
L A swallow taile
R A swallow taile with a half moon on ye upper side

Thomas Mathews
L Cropt
R A large half moon on ye upper side

Thomas Gardner
L Cropt
R A large half moon on ye under side
Thomas Gardner being dead and none to claim this mark taken by John Derickson of Greenwich June 29, 1761

Charles Springer
L Cropt with a hole
R Slitt

John Anderson
L A halfe moon on ye under side
R Slitt

Lacye Holton
L Cropt and ye half moon on ye under side
R Whole

Mons Janson
L A small crop and a square peice cut out of ye under side
R Whole

Thomas Denny
L A swallow taile
R Whole

John Ithell
Both ears a spade on ye under side

Phillip Paule
L Cropt and the rounding part of the under side cut square down
R Half moon on top another on side

John Hugge Ju
L A swallow taile
R Slitt half way and ye innermost ½ peice cut off

Samuel Taylor
Both ears a small crop and each ear a half moon on ye upper side

John Ashbrook
L A crop and slitt on ye under side
R Half moon on ye under side

John Burroughs
L A half moon on ye under side
R A crop and a slitt on ye under side

William Bates
L A half moon out of ye under side
R A half moon out of ye upper side

Marcus Laurence
L A half moon on ye under side
R Cropt and a notch on ye under side

Daniel Reading
L Cropt and a halfe cut away on ye under side
R A swallow taile

Thomas Gibson
L Slitt and a half moon out of ye under side
R Slitt
Thomas Gibson became Joseph Gibsons

Andreas Anderson
L Whole and ahole in the middle
R A crop and a hole in the middle

Isaack Pearson
L Cropt and a square forke
R Cropt and a slit in ye middle

Elthen Cornock
L Cropt and two slitts
R A spade upper side

James Thomas
L A spade on ye under side
R Cropt and slit

John Tatum
L Cropt and slit
R A half moon on under side

John Willis
L Cropt and two slitts on under side
R Two slitts on ye under side

Thomas Buckman
L Cropt and slitt
R A square peice out of the under side thereof

James Whitehall
Both ears cropt and each a hole under

Moses Lakin
L Crop and slitt
R A notch on ye under side

John Parker
L A spade on ye upper side
R A half moon on ye upper side

Robert Parker
L A spade on ye upper side
R A half moon on upper side and a hole in the middle

James Parker
R A spade on ye upper side
R A spade on ye upper side

Josuah Lord
L A halfe moon on ye under side
R Cropt and slit in ye middle

John Parker Jur
L A spade on ye upper side
R Cropt and a half moon on each side

Edward Burroughs
L Cropt a half moon on each side
R A spade under side

John Rambo
L Whole
R Slitt

John Siddon
Both ears cropt with two slitts in middle

Isaac Wood
L Cropt and notch on ye hinder side
R Cropt

Kathrine Howell
L Cross slitt on ye fore side
R Cropt and a cross slitt on ye foreside
Jonathan Bell took this mark

Andrew Hopman
L A halfe moon on ye fore side
R A swallow taile
Lawrence Hopman had this mark

Woolley Peterson
R Halfe moon on ye upper side
L Slitt

Paule Paulson
L A halfe moon on ye undermost side
R Cropt and two slitts

Phillip Paul
L Cropt cut square down underside
R Cropt and a square peice cutt out of ye underside and a cross slit on the same side of the ear

George Webb
Both ears cropt and a halfe moon on each side under

Henry Treadway
L A crop
R A slitt and Robert Zane to alter his mark p order of Court

Samuel Tomes
L Cropt and a hole
R Whole

Archibald Mickell
L Whole
R Cropt and a hole in it

Henry Wood
Both ears a half moon out of ye under side and ye near cropt

Jacob Cozens
L A spade on ye upper side
R A slitt and a half moon on upper side

Charles Crosthwait
L Whole
R Two half moons on upper side

Thomas Nixson
L Whole
R Cropt two slitts down and one cross on ye under side

Henry Johnson
L Cropt and a slitt
R A half moon on ye upper side

Joseph Tomlinson
L ye left cropped
Right ear two slitts

Richard Heritage
Both ears a small swallow tail on ye top and a half moon on ye underside of ye right

William Chester
L Cropt and a hole
R A peice cut out of under side

Thomas Nixson
L A notch on ye foreside
R A crop and slitt former mark void

Israel Ward
L A half moon on ye under side and a slitt
R A halfe moon on ye under side

John Ireson
L A spade on ye under side and a halfe moon on ye upper side
R A spade on ye under side

John Willis
L Whole
R A hole
This became Robert Zane's

Thomas Bull
L A swallow taile
R Cropt and a hole

Elias Hugg
L A swallow taile
R A hole

George Ward
L A half penny on ye under side
R A half penny on ye under side
Both ears slitted

Garratt Van Ima
L A spade on under
R A crop

John Worthington
L Crop'd and a half penny on under side
R A cropp

Charles Crostwait
L A half moon on ye foreside
R A swallow taile
Charles Crostwait former mark and that of Andrew Hopman to be void

William Ward
L Half moon on each side
R A Slitt

John Hedger
L A cut on ye under side
R A cropp and a slitt

Joseph Tyndal
L A half penny on ye under side
R Three slits

Richard Bromley
A diamond in each ear

Phillip Paul
Two half moons on ye under side of each ear
Former mark void

Robert Lord
L Crop'd with two slitts
R A spade on ye up side
Elthen Cornock's mark void

Edward Williams
A half moon on each side of both ears

Robert Parker
L A spade on upper side
R A half moon and slitt under side
Former mark void

William Sharp
L Crop'd and a half moon on ye under side
R Crop'd and swallow tail

James Ward
Both ears cropped—ye left slit and ye right two slitts
Feb'y. 21, 1745 Moses Ward had his father's mark recorded to him

John Richards Jr.
Both ears crop'd and a half moon on underside of each ear

John Hutchinson
L Crop'd and two slitts
R Whole
[This obliterates a former name recorded]

Peter Long
L Crop'd and slitt
R Half moon on upper side and cross slit under it

Richard Bull
L Whole
R Two slitts

Michael Laycon
L A spade on upper side
R Crop'd

John Gibson
Mark crossed off same as George Webb

Peter Cock
L Crop'd, slitt and a half moon under side and a slit under it
R Whole

George Green
L Two Slitts
R Whole

John Roe
L A swallow tail and a half moon on ye upper side
R Whole

John Hinchman
L A half moon on upper side
R A half moon on lower side
His mark taken by his son John Jr. January 9 1727

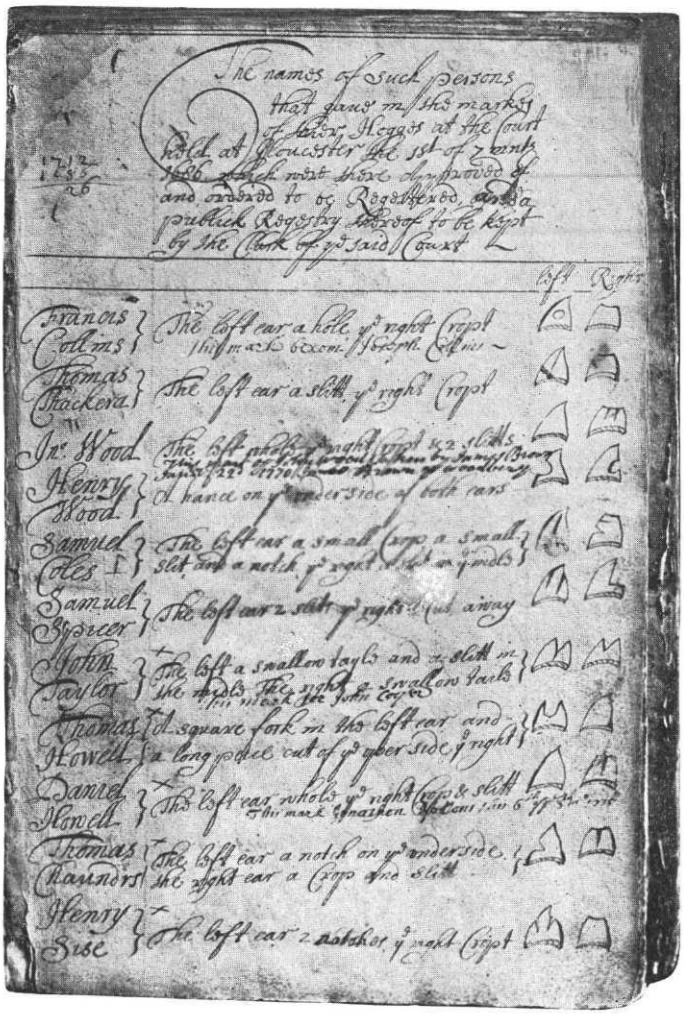
Joseph Nicholson
L Whole
R Swallow taile and half moon on ye under side

John Haddon
Both ears crop'd and slitt and Thomas Sharps mark to be void

John Gray
L Cropped and two slits on under side
R Two slitts on upper side
John Willis mark void

Edward Clements
L A slitt and half moon on upper side
R Crop'd

Reproduction of the First Page of the Gloucester County Ear Mark Book



William Laton
L Crop'd and a half moon on upper side
R A swallow tail and a half moon on under side

Henry Wood
A slit in each ear

John Dole
L A half moon on ye under side
R A swallow tail and a nick on under side
This mark taken by his son Joseph 14—1 mo 1720

Ephraim Bee
Both ears a spade on ye upper side

Isaac Sharp
L Cropp'd, slitt, half moon on under side
R Cropp'd and a swallow tail

William Bryan
L Cropp'd and half moon under side
R Cropp'd and slitt

William Smith
L A half moon on under side with a hole
R A hole

Thomas Stevens
L Slitt
R A half moon on each side

Samuel Driver
L Whole
R A slitt and half moon upper side

John Hillman
L A cut on ye fore side
R Crop'd

John Rakestraw
Both ears crop'd and ye left a hole

William Tatum
L Crop'd and two slitts
R A halfe moon on ye under side

Constantine Wood
L A slitt
R A slitt and half moon on ye under side

John Hopper
L Slitt and half moon on ye under side
R Whole

Charles Smith
L Crop'd and a cut on under side
R A hole

Jonathan Ladd
L Whole
R Crop'd
Richard Arnolds mark void

John Cock
L Whole
R Crop'd, slitt and a half moon on ye under side
Sold by him March 28, 1733 to Jacob Focerman [?]

Nicholas Laycon
L A half moon on under side
R A spade on underside

John Spey
L Three slitts
R A half moon on ye upside

Jacob Clement
L Two slitts
R a half moon on ye upper side
Became Jacob Rylands

John Eastlack
L Slitt
R Crop'd, slitt, Martin Holt's mark to be void

This is the last of the names and ear marks recorded without dates by Clerk Thomas Sharp.

John Richards
Crop on both ears and half moon on inside of each
July ye 5th 1706

Thomas Ashbrook
Feby 19 1706/7
Sketch, no description

Edw Eglington
Mark sketched no description

Joseph Estlacke
L A crop in near ear and nick on outside
R Whole

Amos Ashead
L Crop
R Slit downward on the offside
John Ashton's mark void

David Brin
L Two Slitts
R One Slitt
April 22, 1708

Wm Hampton
Formerly John Burroughs

Thomas Bee
Two slits in each ear—being the former mark of John Hendricks

Joseph Hinchman
L A half penny
R A cross slit
Dec. 17, 1709

Erick Cox
L Whole
R A crop, a slit and half moon

Ralph Sutton
Two slits in near ear
A slit and half moon in other
Dec. 2, 1710

Joseph Liddon
L A swallow fork
R Crop'd and a square piece out
Feb 24 1710/11

John Atkins
L A small slit down; a square out of the upper edge and a square out of the under edge of the same ear
R A square piece out of the under edge

James Lord
L A spade in the side of near ear
R Cropt
March 30, 1711

James Dilks
L Two slitts
R One slitt

Lawrence Cocks
L A spade in upper side
R A half penny

Benjamin Richards
A slit in near ear Both ears cropt and a half penny out of middle

Luke Gibson
L Slit and half penny
R A crop and slitt
Sept 7 1711

Joseph Gibson
Crossed out

Michaell Lycon
A swallow fork and a hole in middle of each ear
Nov 10 1711
Taken by Joseph Heritage Feby 13, 1745

David Wenwright
L A crop and half penny
R A slit and half penny

John Lord
A slitt in each ear half penny out of upper edge of the left ear

John Ladd Jr.
L Cropt and a hole in the middle
R Whole
Feby 14 1711 Formerly Sam'l Toms

Robert Bryan
L A cropp and slitt
R A crop and half penny

Patrick Flaningham
A swallow fork in each ear and a half penny out of unside edge of each ear. This mark Rob't Minors

Philip White
Both ears cropt and a half penny each side of both ears
April 25 1712

Valinteen Rowell
L A square peice like a spade
R Cropt and slitt

John Van Ima
L A spade and half penny
R A crop and slitt

Nathaniel Chew
A slitt in each ear and half penny each side of each ear
8 br 25 1712

Joseph Langley
L A slitt
R A half penny out of each side
Taken by Joseph Perce
May 10, 1759

John Brown
L Two half penny's on each side
R A slitt
March 24, 1712

Robert Zane
L Whole
R A hole
6 - 5 mo 1715

Sam'l Harrison
Two swallow forks in each ear
21 - 5 1715
Taken by Moses Ward Dec. 2 1756

Jonathaon Belton
L Whole
R A slit
Formerly Daniel Howells
This proved to be the mark of John Kay and he chose another

Isaac Hollingham
L Whole
R Cropt
10th 3 mo. 1715 formerly Richard Arnolds taken by Jos. Loe

John Thorn
L A half moon on ye under side
R A half moon and a crop
10-2 mo 1715 had the mark of Robert Teatt

John Inskeep
L Slitt
R Whole

Wm Harrison
L Swallow fork
R Swallow fork and half penny

Wm Thorn
L Half Penny
R Half Penny

John Smallwood
L Cropt
R Notched Crosswise
2 - 1 mo 1715

Richard Gray
L Cropt and half penny
R Whole with two slitts outer edge

John Gibson
Both ears cropt
25 - 2 mo 1716

Tho: Holden
L Cropt
R A slitt—Altered March 15, 1715

Timothy Eglington
L Whole slit on the near side half penny on the other side
R A swallow fork and slitt on side of ear

Joseph Yong
L Whole and half penny taken out of the far side
R Whole and two half pennys taken out of the off side
9th 7 mo 1716

Will Hewitt
L Whole, half penny on the near side
R Croppt half penny off side

Isaac Jennings
L Cropt
R Cropt & Slitt
11 - 6 mo 1716

Jonathan Bolton
L Whole slit on side
R Whole slit on side
6-8-1716 the mark of Catherine Howell, dec'd

John Gill
L Swallow fork
R Croppt
19th- 8 mo 1716 the mark of John Reading

Robert Minor
A swallow fork in each ear and a half penny in each ear
Tobias Bright had this mark
June 15, 1730
Taken by Dan Cooper Dec 1741

Arthur Powell
A half penny on the under side of each ear

Joseph Collins
L A hole
R Croppt

Jacob Rylands
Both cropt and a half moon on the inside of each.
10th - 12 mo 1717 formerly
John Richards

Tho: Dennis
L A hole
R A slitt
Taken by Thos. Kimsey Jr
Feb 16 1740

William Alberson
L Two slitts
R Whole

William Huntt
L Crop and half penny
R A spade and half penny on inside

Jonathan Sell
L Cropt and slit on side
R Whole

Lawrence Hopman
L A half moon
R A swallow tayle

John Hill
L A crop
R A slitt
19 - 6 mo 1718

Robert Champion
L Whole and a slit
R Cropt and two slitts

Jno Dukemineer
L Cropt and a half penny out of near side
R Cropt and two slitts
11 4th mo 1720

Thomas Atmore
L Cropt and two holes
R A slitt and one hole

Joseph Cooper
L Slitt
R Cropt

George Birch
Both whole with hole in each
12-7 mo 1720
This mark taken by Ed. Richardson

Daniel Cooper
Partly illegible—Swallow tail in each ear and a half moon in each

William Dickinson
L Cropt and a half penny
R Whole slit on each side

Wm Cooper
L Whole one slit
R Whole two slitts
12 7 mo 1720

Alexander Randall
Left ear cropt
R Slit in right on side
21 - 7 mo 1720

Simeon Ellis
L Cropt
R A hole

Simon Breach
L Whole
R A half penny out of under side

Joseph Loe
L Whole
R Cropt
The mark of Isaac Hollingham

Wm Vaughan
L A hole
R A crop and notch

Peter Long
The near ear (left) a slit and half penny under the slitt
The off ear (right) a half spade and half penny
March 15 1725/4

Gervas

L A crop
R One slitt

Nathaniel Tylee

L A crop and slitt
R A hole

Thomas Holden

Both ears a spade on the upper side and a half penny on the under side of the right

Abraham Chatwin

A slitt in the tip of each ear
Apr. 4 1726

John Matson

L Whole
R Cropt and slit
Aug. 20 1726
Taken by Benj. Ward
July 19, 1758

William Chester Jr

A hole in the near ear and a crop in both ears
Taken by James Hennesey
May 20 1755

William Arell

A half penny out of the under side of each ear and a hole in the right ear formerly Wm Thorns—
Aug 23 1726

George Whitbrook

A crop in each ear
Aug 11 1726
Taken by Wm Ward of Woodbury Creek Apr 9 1731

George Howill

A crop in each ear and half penny out of right ear
Aug 28 1727

William Van Culling

The mark of Gervas who was not known

L A crop
R A slit

Dec. 12, 1728
Mark taken by John Down Apr. 11 1750

Christopher Taylor

L Cropt and a slit on ye upper side
R Whole
Dec. 18 1728
Taken by Wm White Apr 24, 1749

Edward Richardson

Both ears whole with a hole in each
The mark of George Bird, dec'd.,
Dec. 27, 1728

This is the last entry in the book and evidently the subsequent ear marks were recorded in another book which is now missing or it may be the townships rather than the county recorded the ear marks.

On the blank page at the beginning of the book are the ear marks of John, Levy and George Peirce 1775-6.

Another mark is that of Obadiah Gibson 10th 11 mo 1732 which was later taken by Hab. Ward.

A facsimile manscript copy of the ear-mark book, including illustrations, was deposited in the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania by the editor.

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TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE
AND
ACCURACY ESSENTIAL

On page seven of this pamphlet the editor makes the following statements: **"If there had been such a thing as title insurance with its present-day safeguards and precautions,** it is safe to say that much litigation appearing in our first court records would have been avoided."

The purpose of Title Insurance is to safeguard the homeowner in the peaceful and quiet enjoyment of his home to the exclusion of all others. There are many possible clouds and defects in the title to a piece of land, which clouds and defects are not disclosed by the most careful and diligent search of the records. **Title Insurance is your protection against loss by such clouds and defects on the title to your property.**

In searching a title, a title company not only examines the present-day records, but also the records similar to those set out in this pamphlet.

In the early history of New Jersey, transportation was poor and methods of surveying crude, so that property lines were very poorly located. After the lines were located, some time usually elapsed before any record was made of the survey or conveyances and a good many times no record was ever made. **It is the title company's duty to have these errors and omissions corrected** and have the title of the land in such shape that if a court action is brought, the records of the title company can be used to prove that the owner's title cannot be attacked. It is the duty of the title company to defend any action brought in the courts affecting the title to land insured by a title company.

The haste and speed of the present-day world often leads to many errors and omissions in the transfer of title to lands. It is the duty of the company to carefully inspect all legal papers in relation to the title to land, and immediately have corrected these errors and omissions before some innocent person is deprived of his home and property. Of course, this applies only to property which a title company has been asked to insure.

Let this Title Company be your guide and protect you from hidden defects, errors and omissions when you are buying property.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY TITLE
AND
MORTGAGE GUARANTY CO.

WOODBURY, NEW JERSEY

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